

## so many territories (2014)

James Saunders

Territories are areas 'in which one has responsibility with regard to a particular type of activity'. *so many territories* comprises a set of score pages, each of which is presented as an 8 × 8 grid of short sounds. These sounds are permutations of pitches, dynamics and articulation types to create 64 unique combinations of these elements. The players work their way independently across the grids from the top left corner to the bottom right, moving either up, down, left or right and following a route of their choice. Occasional stable moments may occur. The title is taken from a Bon Iver song.

### performance instructions

All players play independently throughout.

Each player begins at the top left cell and works across the page, ending with the bottom right cell.

The route between these two points may be direct or circuitous; it may revisit previously played cells; it may involve immediate repetition of a cell.

Players should not necessarily synchronise the playing of cells, but should rather play independently with regards to duration and allow natural coincidences to occur.

All cells comprise relatively short sounds, up to about three seconds, but may occasionally be slightly longer.

Each player should leave a period of silence between cells that is at least as long as the duration of the previously played cell.

Stable states may sometimes develop where repetitions of cells in a fixed relationship occur. If this happens, players may either choose to submit and move on, co-exist for a time, or refuse to move on and wait for the other player(s) to submit.

Duration is variable, but should be agreed approximately in advance. On reaching the bottom right cell, players may repeat for a time or stop.

so many territories

[clarinet]

James Saunders

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so many territories

[accordion]

James Saunders

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[piano]

James Saunders

[illegible]

so many territories

[cello]

James Saunders

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